

Nittany Lion Basketball

110 YEARS OF HOOPS IN HAPPY VALLEY

Penn State BASKETBALL At A Glance

- **Years Playing:** 110
- **First Year:** 1897
- **Record:** 1,266-976 (56.5%)
- **Joined Big Ten:** 1992-93
- **Big Ten Record:** 72-162 (15 seasons)
- **20-win Seasons:** 9 (last 2001)
- **Most Wins in Season:** 25 (1990)
- **Post-Season Appearances:**
 NCAA: 8 (1954 Final Four)
 NCAA Record: 9-10
 1942, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1965, 1991, 1996, 2001
 NIT: 9 (1990, '95, '98, '00 Final Fours)
 NIT Record: 17-9
 1966, 1980, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2000, 2006
- **Head Coaches:** 11
 Burke Hermann (1916-17, 1920-32)
 Hugo Bezdek (1919)
 Earl Leslie (1933-36)
 John Lawther (1937-49)
 Elmer Gross (195-54)
 John Egli (1955-68)
 John Bach (1969-78)
 Dick Harter (1979-83)
 Bruce Parkhill (1984-95)
 Jerry Dunn (1996-2003)
 Ed DeChellis (2004-present)
- **Winningest Head Coach:**
 John Egli (187-135, 14 years)
- **Facilities:**
 The Armory (1887-1929, 32 seasons)
 Rec Hall (1929-1995, 68 1/2 seasons)
 Bryce Jordan Center (1995-present)
- **Jordan Center Record:** 94-64 (10 yrs)
- **All-America Selections:** 5
 Jesse Arnelle (1st team, 1954)
 Jesse Arnelle (2nd team, 1955)
 John Barr (3rd team, 1941)
 Jesse Arnelle (3rd team, 1952)
 Jesse Arnelle (3rd team, 1955)
- **All-Big Ten Selections:** 17 players
First Team: 5 (coaches & media)
Second Team: 8 (coaches & media)
Third Team: 12 (coaches & media)
- **Conference Affiliations:** 5
 Eastern Intercollegiate Conference, 1936-39 (4 years)
 Eastern Collegiate Basketball League, 1977 (1 year)
 Eastern Eight, 1978-79 (2 years)
 Atlantic 10, 1983-91 (9 years)
 Big Ten, 1993-present



▲ All-American Jesse Arnelle led Penn State to the 1954 Final Four and is the Nittany Lions all-time scoring and rebounding leader.

Penn State has a long and storied tradition in basketball. More than 1,200 all-time wins, one NCAA and four NIT Final Four appearances (NCAA- 1954, NIT-1990, 1995, 1998, 2000), eight NCAA Tournament and nine National Invitation Tournament berths have highlighted more than a century of basketball history at University Park.

Victories started accumulating in 1897, when basketball became the first indoor sport at Penn State. Dr. James Naismith had invented the game six years before in Springfield, Mass.

Penn State played a two-game series with Bucknell that first season, with each school winning at home. The schedule included three games in 1898, five in 1899 and 14 in 1908.

In its early years, the team was without a formal coach. Athletic director W.N. "Pop" Golden encouraged development of the program by naming **Burke M. "Dutch" Hermann** the first full-time coach in 1916. Hermann, who had been team captain in 1910, compiled a 148-74 record in 15 seasons. He coached two seasons, served during World War I, then returned to Penn State in 1920 and remained as coach until 1932.

The Armory, constructed in 1888-89 and razed in 1964 to make room for an addition to Willard Building, was the original site for Penn State basketball.

The first African-American to compete in intercollegiate athletics for Penn State was a basketball player — **Cumberland W. Posey, Jr.** A member of the 1910-11 team, he became a legend in Pittsburgh sports history. Posey was owner/player for the famed Leondi Club, an independent basketball team which was the National Negro Championship team for many years. He also was the founder and co-owner of the Homestead Greys professional baseball team.

The 1917-18 team did not have a coach, but still managed to post a 12-1 mark. **Hugo Bezdek**, who coached the football team from 1918-29, directed the cagers in 1919 to an 11-2 record.

Frank Wolf scored a record 36 points on 18 field goals in an 86-12 win over Susquehanna on Jan. 25, 1919. That mark stood for 33 years, until New Rochelle, N.Y., freshman **Jesse Arnelle** began his rampage on the Penn State record book.

Hermann's teams were especially dominant over a six-year stretch. Beginning with the

1919-20 season, Penn State put together a record of 73-13 over six seasons, which included outscoring its opponents by a two-to-one margin in 1921.

Designated free throw shooter and star forward **John Reed** scored 583 points from 1922-24, including an Eastern high of 242 in 1923.

Team captain in 1924, **Ken Loeffler** is a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame. A native of Beaver Falls, Pa., Loeffler coached LaSalle to the 1954 NCAA title and a runner-up finish the following year.

Rec Hall opened its doors to the public on Jan. 15, 1929 as Hermann's squad defeated Gettysburg, 37-34, in overtime. The building was dedicated in March of 1929.

The Nittany Lions made Hermann's final game a memorable one by defeating Pittsburgh, 40-30, on March 12, 1932, in the Steel City. It marked Penn State's first win over the Panthers in five years.

Earl "Spike" Leslie, a 1922 Oregon graduate, followed Hermann as coach. Leslie's teams won 29 and lost 28 from 1933-36. The nation was in the midst of the Great Depression and in '33, the Nittany Lions played just 11 games (7-4) — their fewest since 1916.



▲ The Nittany Lions celebrate a 74-69 upset of No. 16 ranked UCLA in the first round of the 1991 NCAA Tournament.

The following season, the team was 8-4. Penn State joined the "fast" Eastern Intercollegiate Conference (Carnegie Tech, Georgetown, Pittsburgh, Temple, West Virginia and Penn State) in 1935-36 and was winless in 10 conference games.

Leslie was succeeded by **John Lawther**, a leading proponent of the zone defense. Lawther, a 1919 graduate of Westminster College, was the architect of the Titans' 1934 upset of St. John's, 37-33, in the first college basketball doubleheader at Madison Square Garden. He coached the Nittany Lions from 1937-49, compiling a 150-93 record. Lawther still ranks among the winningest coaches in PSU history (317-127, 71.4 percent).

Lawther was well known for combing the campus and uncovering raw six-footers, then

gradually molding them into finished products. His teams rarely featured players who starred in high school or prep school. His first Penn State team finished 10-7 overall and 6-4 in the EIC in 1937.

Lawther's sliding-zone defense continually stumped more talented teams. His tactics, however, were held in contempt by many of the nation's coaches. Rhode Island coach Frank Keaney declared the zone "Un-American." Bristled Lawther, "The idea of the game is to win, isn't it?"

John Barr, a Converse third-team All-American in 1941, scored 519 points during his three-year varsity career and became the first Nittany Lion in the modern era to top 500 career points.

Lawther's 1941-42 team was the first in

school history to qualify for the **NCAA Tournament** — an eight-team event at the time. The Lions lost to eventual runner-up Dartmouth, 44-39, in the first round of the East Regional in New Orleans. Penn State defeated the Big Ten champion "Whiz Kids" from Illinois, 41-34, for third in the region.

The Lions closed the season at 18-3 — a school record for wins — and claimed 10th in the final Dunkel Index. Two key players on that team were **Elmer Gross** and **John Egli**. Both would later coach the Nittany Lions. **Herschel Baltimore**, who played for the NBA's St. Louis Bombers in '47, and Gross tied for the team leadership in scoring with 179 points apiece.

Basketball at Penn State continued despite World War II. Nittany Lion stars during this era included **David Hornstein**, **Sylvester**

Bozinski, **Walter Hatkevich** and **Jack Biery**, who was the second Nittany Lion (after John Barr) to surpass the 500 career point mark.

Two memorable games from the 40's would be the five-overtime loss to Temple in 1945 and a 50-46 win over fifth-ranked West Virginia in 1948.

When Lawther retired from coaching, following the 1948-49 season, the *Centre Daily Times* wrote: "There has been widespread criticism of the deliberate style of offense and the sliding-zone defense he developed. He used both to fit the game to the brand of material he had on-hand without the benefit of scholarships. And yet his most severe critics were the first to applaud him when his team accomplished a particularly brilliant upset."

Elmer Gross and John Egli, both John

Penn State's Head Coaches RECORDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

| Seasons | Coach | Years | Games | W | L | Pct. | Postseason/Noteable |
|-----------------|----------------|-------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|---|
| 1897-15, '18 | No Coach | 20 | 195 | 131 | 64 | 67.2 | |
| 1916-17, '20-32 | Burke Hermann | 15 | 222 | 148 | 74 | 66.7 | Penn State captain (1910), four-year letterman, lettered in football (1911) |
| 1919 | Hugo Bezdek | 1 | 13 | 11 | 2 | 84.6 | Penn State football coach (1918-29), athletic director (1918-36), AA fullback, Hall of Fame |
| 1933-36 | Earl Leslie | 4 | 57 | 29 | 28 | 50.9 | Football letterman at Oregon (1919-21), Pacific Coast Conference first team (1920) |
| 1937-49 | John Lawther | 13 | 243 | 150 | 93 | 61.7 | 1942 NCAA, NAIA Hall of Fame, Helms Foundation Hall of Fame, architect of sliding zone |
| 1950-54 | Elmer Gross | 5 | 120 | 80 | 40 | 66.7 | 1952 NCAA, 1954 NCAA Final Four (No. 9 in AP), first NCAA tourney player and coach |
| 1955-68 | John Egli | 14 | 322 | 187 | 135 | 58.1 | 1955 NCAA, 1965 NCAA, 1966 NIT, Penn State captain (1943), All-NCAA East Regional (1942) |
| 1969-78 | John Bach | 10 | 243 | 122 | 121 | 50.1 | 1972 U.S. Olympic assistant coach, NIT Hall of Fame, NBA head and assistant coach |
| 1979-83 | Dick Harter | 5 | 140 | 79 | 61 | 56.4 | 1980 NIT, NBA head and assistant coach, |
| 1984-95 | Bruce Parkhill | 12 | 350 | 181 | 169 | 51.7 | 1991 NCAA, 1989 NIT, 1990 NIT, 1992 NIT, 1995 NIT, 1991 A-10 title, 1990 A-10 Coach of the Year |
| 1996-03 | Jerry Dunn | 8 | 238 | 117 | 121 | 49.2 | 1996 NCAA, 2001 NCAA, 1998 NIT, 2000 NIT, NABC District 3 Coach of the Year (2001) |
| 2004-Present | Ed DeChellis | 3 | 88 | 31 | 57 | 35.2 | 2006 NIT, Penn State assistant (1986-96 & 1982-84) |
| Totals | | | 2,231 | 1,266 | 976 | 56.5 | |





▲ John Amaechi was named the Academic All-American of the Year in 1995.



▲ The Rec Hall crowd swarms the floor celebrating a big win in the 1960's.

Lawther products, followed their mentor in leading the Penn State program. Gross' teams were 80-40 from 1950-54 and gained NCAA Tournament berths in 1952 and 1954.

On Jan. 18, 1950, **Marty Costa** scored 32 points against American, breaking **Nick Dieterick's** modern record of 27 points scored March 8, 1947 vs. Colgate. In 1951, Lou Lamie scored 319 points and became the first Nittany Lion to go over 300 in one season and the first Penn Stater to eclipse 600 in a career with 666 points in three seasons.

Penn State's 24-9 win over Pittsburgh on March 1, 1952, known as the "Freeze Game," attracted national attention. In the NCAA Tournament, the Lions caught Adolph Rupp's No. 1-ranked Kentucky Wildcats in the first round and lost, 82-54.

Led by All-America center and former Board of Trustees Vice President **Jesse Arnelle**, Penn State advanced to the **1954 NCAA Final Four** with victories over Toledo, Louisiana State and Notre Dame. The Lions lost to eventual champion LaSalle and coach Tom Gola, 69-54, in Kansas City. Penn State defeated Southern California, 70-61, for third

place. Arnelle was named MVP of the East Regional at Iowa City and earned a spot on the NCAA Final Four All-Tournament team. **The Nittany Lions were ranked ninth in the final Associated Press poll.**

"(LSU's) Bob Pettit was a very well known player and I suppose everybody in the East knew who Jesse Arnelle was," said Bob Brooks, the 50-year voice of the Iowa Hawkeyes, who called the regional for KCRG radio in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "But in those days you didn't have television and video tape and all that stuff, so you got surprised by players sometimes. For that day, (Penn State's regional championship) was a pretty good sized upset."

Gross recalled his directive to the team: "Notre Dame just out-muscled and out-hustled (Indiana). They beat the heck out of them on the boards. The winner of the East Regional was supposed to win the whole thing, and of course, Penn State was given no chance at all."

Aرنelle became one of the first 10 collegiate players in history to score 2,000 career points Feb. 23, 1955 at Rutgers. Jim Lacy of

Loyola (Md.) was the first in 1949. Furman phenom Frank Selvy topped 2,500 points in three seasons through 1954. Arnelle finished his brilliant career with 2,138 points in 102 games.

Egli guided Penn State back to the **NCAA Tournament in 1955**. After a 59-55 win over Memphis State in Lexington, Ky., the Lions were zapped by Iowa and Kentucky.

The seven-year period from 1956-62, was wedged in between two great eras in the sport's "Happy Valley" history: the Jesse Arnelle-led teams of '52-55 and the **Bob Weiss** and **Carver Clinton** led teams of '63-66. The aggregate record of these seven teams was 80-79. The success of the early 50's made Penn State a nationally recognized program and Egli continued to play the best schedule his resources would allow.

On Feb. 15, 1958, No. 1-ranked West Virginia hung on for a 74-71 win over the Lions at Rec Hall. Sophomore Jerry West had 24 points for the Mountaineers. **Ron Rainey** scored 20 for Penn State.

This era produced several standout players: Rainey from Johnstown, Pa., **Bob**

Edwards from Bridgeton, N.J., **Wally Colender** from Trenton, N.J., and high-scoring **Earl Hoffman** from Steelton, Pa.

However, the two marquee players were Sharon, Pa., schoolboy star **Mark DuMars** and Pittsburgh native **Gene Harris**. Both are members of Penn State's 1,000-point club.

As a high school senior, DuMars led Sharon to the 1957 PIAA state title. A 5-10 guard, he averaged 21.3 points per game in '59-60 and twice was named UPI honorable-mention All-American. DuMars graduated as the Nittany Lions' second all-time leading scorer.

Harris, an over-achieving 6-3 forward, averaged 14.8 points and 11.0 rebounds in 69 career games. On Dec. 27, 1961, in Penn State's second game of the Quaker City Classic in Philadelphia, Harris poured in a school-record 46 points against Holy Cross. He topped his season average by 27 points, sinking 17-of-37 field goal tries, 12 free throws and snaring 23 boards.

Egli was building for a return to glory in the mid-60's and the successful recruitment of Weiss from Athens, Pa., in '61 and Clinton



from Selma, Ala., in '62 started the process.

A one-point loss to West Virginia late in the season coupled with an earlier 20-point loss to Pittsburgh — both at Rec Hall — probably kept the '62-63 Lions (15-5) out of post-season play. Hoffman, the team's top scorer (21.7), was the only starter to graduate.

In 1963-64, the Lions won 12 of their last 13 games, finished 16-7 and were left out in the cold. A four-game road skid in early January proved to be damaging. Weiss (17.0), **Bob Donato** (13.4), Clinton (13.1) and **Ray Saunders** (10.5) had given Egli four solid scorers, and three were back the next year.

The expansion of Rec Hall necessitated the 1964-65 home-opener against seventh-ranked Syracuse to be played in South Gym. The Lions blasted the Orange, 81-59, Dec. 5 and followed that victory with a road sweep of Kansas and Kansas State. Penn State also repeated as champion of the Motor City Classic, downing Houston and Detroit. Egli's squad won 13 straight games to end the regular season, achieved a Top 20 ranking and was invited to the **1965 NCAA Tournament** for the first time since '55.

At the Palestra in Philadelphia, Bill Bradley scored 22 points to lead Princeton to a 60-58 win over the Lions, who finished at 20-4.

Despite the loss of Weiss (who Egli called "the best Penn State guard in 25 years"), the Lions retooled and put together another great season in 1965-66. Five starters averaged in twin figures, including sophomore **Jeff Persson**, whose buzzer shot nipped Syracuse Feb. 28 and preserved a 27-game home winning streak.

Four consecutive road wins by a total of six points in late December enabled Penn State to finish 18-5 before a first-round loss to San Francisco in the **1966 NIT**. Erwin Mueller paced the Dons with 31 points and 14 rebounds.

Egli's final two teams posted marks of 10-14 and 10-10, respectively, in '67 and '68. Persson led the team in scoring and free throw percentage both years.

A zone defensive team since 1937, Penn State had a new look in 1968-69. Highly successful Fordham coach **John Bach** brought pressure man-to-man defense to State College and put together a mark of 122-121 from 1969-78.

Bach's first team played its first seven games away from home and finished 13-9, including two wins over Pittsburgh and West Virginia and a win against Syracuse.

Lock Haven, Pa., product **Tom Daley** led the '69 (14.2) and '70 (15.3) teams in scoring.

In 1971-72, Bach was beginning to pull together the elements necessary for Penn State to make a run at post-season play. Guard/forward **Ron Brown**, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native, earned ECAC Sophomore of the Year honors in '72 as the Lions finished 17-8. An estimated 8,000 spectators crammed Rec Hall on Feb. 16 to see the Lions defeat sixth-ranked

Virginia, 86-74. The Lions won 12-of-15 games to end the season, but received no post-season invitation.

Penn State was 15-6 with two games left to play in '72-73 when sophomore center and leading scorer (14.7) **Randy Meister** broke his hand. The Lions dropped both games, finished 15-8 and out of the NCAA/NIT mix.

All five starters were back, including ferocious rebounder **Jon Marshall**, in '73-74 when the Lions made their last stand. But four losses by a total of eight points through December put this club behind the eight ball. Penn State ended up 14-12, but did manage to collect one of the greatest wins in school history. Brown scored 32 points, including the game-winner at the buzzer, to lift the Lions to a 66-64 win over seventh-ranked Pittsburgh at Rec Hall. The Panthers had won 22 in a row.

Bach's last four teams had losing records, but did feature long-range bomber **Jeff Miller** (1,008 career points).

Future NBA coach **Dick Harter** became the Lions' eighth coach in 1978 and posted a 79-61 log in five seasons.

Harter's intensity quickly rubbed off on the squad. His first team (1978-79) played possibly the toughest schedule in school history — to that point — and posted a respectable 12-18 mark. Freshman guard **Mike Edelman** led the team in scoring (11.4 ppg). The Lions were 4-6 in their third season in the Eastern 8.

Penn State played as an independent for three seasons beginning in 1979-80. Led by junior center **Frank Brickowski**, efficient point-guard **Tom Wilkinson** (who held the career record of 485 assists), Edelman and top recruits **Mike Lang** and **Rich Fetter**, the Lions won 12 of their final 14 games to finish the regular-season 18-9. For the first time in 14 years, Penn State was extended a post-season bid and lost in the first round of the **1980 NIT** at Alabama, 53-49. Lebanon, Pa., forward Steve Kuhn closed his career with 1,057 points.

While the Lions had winning seasons the next three years, they did not return to post-season play. Penn State rejoined the **Eastern 8**, renamed the **Atlantic 10 Conference**, for the '82-83 season.

Brickowski had a fine year in '80-81, averaging 13.0 points, 6.3 boards and shooting 60.1 percent from the floor. He was a third round draft pick of the New York Knicks, opted to play overseas and returned to enjoy an eventual 12-year NBA career.

Edelman and Lang, a starter in all 110 career games, both topped 1,000 points.

Two overtime losses are among the most memorable games of the early 1980's. On Dec. 28, 1981, the Lions lost a heartbreaker to No. 1-ranked North Carolina, 56-50, in the first round of the Cable Car Classic at Santa Clara, Calif. The Tar Heels' lineup included Michael Jordan, James Worthy and Sam Perkins.



▲ Calvin Booth set a Big Ten and Penn State career record for blocked shots and was a second team All-Big Ten selection in 1999. He was selected in the second round of the 1999 NBA draft.

On Dec. 11, 1982, 11th-ranked Alabama defeated the Lions, 75-67, in raucous Rec Hall.

State College native **Bruce Parkhill** returned home to lead the Lions in 1983-84. Parkhill's squads demonstrated steady improvement over his 12 years as head coach. His first five teams were a combined 53-84, but four straight 20-win seasons (1989-92) sent the Nittany Lions into the Big Ten riding a wave of success.

In 1985, guard **Craig Collins** set a NCAA free throw shooting record at 95.9 percent.

Penn State broke through with a 20-12 slate in 1988-89. It was the Lions' first 20-win season since 1964-65 as the team advanced to post-season play (NIT) for the first time in nine years. Parkhill's squads were 25-9, 21-11 and 21-8, respectively, the next three years and made four consecutive post-season tournament appearances. An 89-73 victory against Murray State in the **1989 NIT** marked the Nittany Lions' first national post-season win in 34 years. Five of Penn State's seven 20-win seasons and 10 of the school's 16 post-season (NCAA or NIT) victories came under Parkhill.

Behind center **Ed Fogell**, the Nittany Lions equaled their best finish in a national tournament, placing third in the **1990 NIT**. The following season, Penn State tied for third place in the Atlantic 10 regular-season standings, but **won the Atlantic 10 Tournament**, qualified for the **1991 NCAA Tournament** and knocked off 16th-ranked UCLA, 74-69, in the first round. It was the Nittany Lions' first NCAA appearance in 26 years and first NCAA win since 1955.

Playing as an independent in 1991-92, Penn State compiled a 21-8 slate, including a first-round loss to Pittsburgh, 67-65, in the **1992 NIT**.

Eight of 19 Lions to crack 1,000 points played for Parkhill. The first was guard **Tony Ward** (1985-88), who sank 100 career three-pointers. Next was Colorado sharp-shooter **Tom Hovasse** (1986-89), currently third on the all-time scoring list. Fogell (1985-90) capped a brilliant senior year by topping 1,000 points and shooting 60.8 percent from the floor and 81.2 percent from the line.

Burly forward **James Barnes** (1988-91) cracked the barrier in the memorable NCAA





▲ Jarrett Stephens was Penn State's first consensus (coaches and media) first team All-Big Ten selection in 2000. He ranks sixth on Penn State's all-time scoring list with 1,372 career points.



▲ Joe Crispin ranks second on the PSU scoring charts with 1,986 points.

win over UCLA. The magnificent backcourt duo of **Freddie Barnes** and **Monroe Brown** (both 1989-92) compiled an 82-34 mark when starting together (47-4 at home) and never lost three games in a row. Both eclipsed 1,000 career points. Barnes also set career marks for minutes played (4,038) and assists (600). Brown had 239 career steals, second only to Ron Brown.

Another star of the early 1990's was forward **DeRon Hayes** (1990-93). A starter in a record 120 games, Hayes scored 184 points in 13 career Atlantic 10, NIT and NCAA tournament games (14.2 ppg.). His 15-foot jumper was a key in Penn State's game-plan.

On Dec. 19, 1989, Penn State announced it was joining the Big Ten Conference. And although the transition timetable had not completely been worked out, the first domino had fallen in the realignment of collegiate athletics.

At first it seemed the Nittany Lions would have to wait at least three to five years to begin conference play in basketball.

On Jan. 28, 1991, Pennsylvania Governor Robert P. Casey released \$16.8 million, almost half of the total state authorization, for the

design and planning of the University's Academic/Athletic Convocation & Events Center. One month later, the **Big Ten** approved Penn State's participation in basketball for 1992-93 — two years earlier than some scenarios had forecasted.

Parkhill again faced the task of rebuilding the program as the Nittany Lions were lacking personnel, but preparing to enter one of the nation's elite basketball conferences. The uncertainty of the Big Ten transition, the graduation of the best backcourt in school history and a series of injuries left the team short for its inaugural Big Ten season.

After a **three-point loss to defending champion Ohio State in their Big Ten debut**, the Lions mustered a great effort Feb. 9 in falling to Bob Knight's No. 1-ranked Indiana Hoosiers, 88-84, in double-overtime.

From overall and conference records of 7-20 (2-16) in 1993 to 13-14 (6-12) in '94 and 21-11 (9-9) in '95, Penn State demonstrated steady progress since joining the Big Ten.

At the "center" of the improvement was **John Amaechi** — the Lions' first All-Big Ten first-team selection. College basketball's

Academic All-American of the Year in '95, Amaechi scored 1,310 points (sixth all-time), grabbed 745 rebounds (fourth) and blocked 191 shots (first) in just three seasons after transferring from Vanderbilt.

The '93-94 campaign was highlighted by back-to-back home wins against 18th-ranked Minnesota and No. 7 Purdue.

In '94-95, Penn State rallied to win eight of its last 11 games, reached the **1995 NIT** semi-finals and won 20 games for the first time since joining the Big Ten (the fifth time in seven years). Guard **Dan Earl** was named to the All-Tournament team.

On Sept. 6, 1995, longtime assistant coach **Jerry Dunn** was named Penn State's 10th head coach as he replaced Bruce Parkhill, who retired. The Nittany Lions went 21-7 in 1995-96 under Dunn and earned a No. 5 seed in the **1996 NCAA Tournament**. The Bryce Jordan Center opened on Jan. 11, 1996 with a 76-61 dismantling of Minnesota.

The 1997-98 squad overcame injuries once again and posted an impressive 19-13 overall mark, placed seventh in the Big Ten with an 8-8 record (just one game out of a tie

for fifth place) and had an amazing post-season run that saw the team advance to the **1998 NIT** title game, its first-ever. Senior **Pete Lisicky** concluded a stellar career with 1,605 points.

The 1999-2000 team bounced back from a 5-11 Big Ten regular season to advance to the semi-finals of the Big Ten Tournament in Chicago. A two-game win streak in the tournament included a win over tourney No. 1 seed and fifth-ranked Ohio State in the quarterfinals. Penn State then went on a 3-0 run in the **2000 NIT** and advanced to the finals in Madison Square Garden for the second time in three years. Senior **Jarrett Stephens** became the first player in Nittany Lion history to be voted to both the coaches and media first team All-Big Ten squads.

In 2001, the Nittany Lions took their fans on an unprecedented ride to the school's first-ever modern day **NCAA Sweet 16** appearance. Regular season wins over Kentucky, Temple, and Illinois plus a Big Ten tourney win over Michigan State helped the Lions secure a bid to the **2001 NCAA Tournament**. Penn State, the seven seed in the South Regional in New Orleans, downed Providence in the first round then shocked second-seeded North Carolina to advance to the Sweet 16. A third-round loss to Temple did not dampen what had been a thrilling season. **Joe Crispin**, **Gyasi Cline-Heard** and **Titus Ivory** earned All-Big Ten honors while Crispin won the national three-point contest and Ivory participated in the NABC All-Star game as part of the Final Four festivities in Minneapolis.

On April 3, 2003, former assistant **Ed DeChellis** returned to Penn State as the school's 11th head coach. DeChellis, who was an assistant under Parkhill and Dunn, came to Penn State after an extremely successful seven-year run as the head coach at East Tennessee State University. While at ETSU, DeChellis turned a last-place team into champions of the Southern Conference.

DeChellis quickly went to work rebuilding the Penn State program. In his first season at the helm he led Penn State to more wins, both overall and in Big Ten play, than the two previous seasons.

DeChellis had players selected to the Big Ten All-Freshman team each of his first three years, the first ever selections for Penn State, and saw **Jamelle Cornley** named Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2006. Forward **Geary Claxton** emerged as one of Penn State's best players in years, earning NABC All-District 1 and third team All-Big Ten honors in 2006. Claxton and Cornley served as cornerstones on a 2005-06 team that turned the corner for DeChellis, posting a 15-15 record and 6-10 Big Ten mark, both the best marks in five seasons. The Nittany Lions reached the **2006 NIT** and pulled the biggest road upset in program history with a 66-65 defeat of No. 6-ranked Illinois in Champaign that ended a 33-game home win streak, then tied for the nation's longest.





Year-by-Year Records

ALL-TIME WINS & LOSSES

| Season | W | L | Pts. | Opp. Pts. | Head Coach |
|--------|----|----|------|-----------|---------------|
| 1897 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 31 | None |
| 1898 | 2 | 1 | 43 | 27 | None |
| 1899 | 2 | 3 | 56 | 75 | None |
| 1900 | 7 | 1 | 132 | 71 | None |
| 1901 | 5 | 1 | 172 | 37 | None |
| 1902 | 9 | 2 | 406 | 167 | None |
| 1903* | 3 | 5 | 204 | 162 | None |
| 1904 | 5 | 4 | 257 | 159 | None |
| 1905 | 6 | 2 | 232 | 169 | None |
| 1906 | 6 | 4 | 341 | 196 | None |
| 1907 | 5 | 6 | 321 | 274 | None |
| 1908 | 10 | 4 | 413 | 265 | None |
| 1909 | 7 | 6 | 391 | 310 | None |
| 1910 | 8 | 6 | 425 | 305 | None |
| 1911 | 9 | 4 | 372 | 232 | None |
| 1912 | 8 | 5 | 373 | 285 | None |
| 1913 | 8 | 3 | 359 | 245 | None |
| 1914 | 8 | 4 | 399 | 297 | None |
| 1915 | 10 | 3 | 470 | 353 | None |
| 1916 | 8 | 3 | 350 | 279 | Burke Hermann |
| 1917 | 12 | 2 | 487 | 375 | Burke Hermann |
| 1918 | 12 | 1 | 534 | 358 | None |
| 1919 | 11 | 2 | 532 | 300 | Hugo Bezdek |
| 1920 | 12 | 1 | 546 | 249 | Burke Hermann |
| 1921 | 14 | 2 | 643 | 312 | Burke Hermann |
| 1922 | 9 | 5 | 452 | 300 | Burke Hermann |
| 1923 | 13 | 1 | 557 | 302 | Burke Hermann |
| 1924 | 13 | 2 | 563 | 302 | Burke Hermann |
| 1925 | 12 | 2 | 521 | 335 | Burke Hermann |
| 1926 | 7 | 7 | 468 | 410 | Burke Hermann |
| 1927 | 14 | 4 | 653 | 510 | Burke Hermann |
| 1928 | 10 | 5 | 552 | 437 | Burke Hermann |
| 1929 | 10 | 9 | 624 | 570 | Burke Hermann |
| 1930 | 5 | 9 | 432 | 488 | Burke Hermann |
| 1931 | 3 | 12 | 457 | 533 | Burke Hermann |
| 1932 | 6 | 9 | 535 | 509 | Burke Hermann |
| 1933 | 7 | 4 | 407 | 350 | Earl Leslie |
| 1934 | 8 | 4 | 408 | 315 | Earl Leslie |
| 1935 | 8 | 9 | 618 | 592 | Earl Leslie |
| 1936 | 6 | 11 | 568 | 634 | Earl Leslie |
| 1937 | 10 | 7 | 549 | 483 | John Lawther |
| 1938 | 13 | 5 | 674 | 553 | John Lawther |
| 1939 | 13 | 10 | 790 | 693 | John Lawther |
| 1940 | 15 | 8 | 875 | 666 | John Lawther |
| 1941 | 15 | 5 | 779 | 539 | John Lawther |
| 1942 | 18 | 3 | 856 | 656 | John Lawther |
| 1943 | 15 | 4 | 803 | 597 | John Lawther |
| 1944 | 8 | 7 | 547 | 511 | John Lawther |
| 1945 | 10 | 7 | 731 | 599 | John Lawther |
| 1946 | 7 | 9 | 712 | 674 | John Lawther |
| 1947 | 10 | 8 | 866 | 784 | John Lawther |
| 1948 | 9 | 10 | 852 | 853 | John Lawther |
| 1949 | 7 | 10 | 822 | 830 | John Lawther |
| 1950 | 13 | 10 | 1314 | 1241 | Elmer Gross |
| 1951 | 14 | 9 | 1378 | 1235 | Elmer Gross |
| 1952 | 20 | 6 | 1709 | 1451 | Elmer Gross |

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----|------|------|----------------|
| 1953 | 15 | 9 | 1613 | 1455 | Elmer Gross |
| 1954 | 18 | 6 | 1662 | 1505 | Elmer Gross |
| 1955 | 18 | 10 | 2203 | 1969 | John Egli |
| 1956 | 12 | 14 | 1855 | 1901 | John Egli |
| 1957 | 15 | 10 | 1633 | 1544 | John Egli |
| 1958 | 8 | 11 | 1204 | 1227 | John Egli |
| 1959 | 11 | 9 | 1407 | 1328 | John Egli |
| 1960 | 11 | 11 | 1555 | 1514 | John Egli |
| 1961 | 11 | 13 | 1574 | 1501 | John Egli |
| 1962 | 12 | 11 | 1456 | 1490 | John Egli |
| 1963 | 15 | 5 | 1448 | 1318 | John Egli |
| 1964 | 16 | 7 | 1793 | 1566 | John Egli |
| 1965 | 20 | 4 | 1749 | 1523 | John Egli |
| 1966 | 18 | 6 | 1764 | 1640 | John Egli |
| 1967 | 10 | 14 | 1734 | 1757 | John Egli |
| 1968 | 10 | 10 | 1446 | 1433 | John Egli |
| 1969 | 13 | 9 | 1389 | 1369 | John Bach |
| 1970 | 13 | 11 | 1602 | 1627 | John Bach |
| 1971 | 10 | 12 | 1559 | 1539 | John Bach |
| 1972 | 17 | 8 | 1883 | 1703 | John Bach |
| 1973 | 15 | 8 | 1484 | 1407 | John Bach |
| 1974 | 14 | 12 | 1676 | 1630 | John Bach |
| 1975 | 11 | 12 | 1604 | 1649 | John Bach |
| 1976 | 10 | 15 | 1813 | 1777 | John Bach |
| 1977 | 11 | 15 | 1821 | 1921 | John Bach |
| 1978 | 8 | 19 | 1893 | 2006 | John Bach |
| 1979 | 12 | 18 | 1746 | 1849 | Dick Harter |
| 1980 | 18 | 10 | 1752 | 1600 | Dick Harter |
| 1981 | 17 | 10 | 1826 | 1611 | Dick Harter |
| 1982 | 15 | 12 | 1657 | 1698 | Dick Harter |
| 1983 | 17 | 11 | 2195 | 2108 | Dick Harter |
| 1984 | 5 | 22 | 1847 | 2000 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1985 | 8 | 19 | 1792 | 1933 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1986 | 12 | 17 | 1777 | 1960 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1987 | 15 | 12 | 1940 | 1824 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1988 | 13 | 14 | 1824 | 1754 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1989 | 20 | 12 | 2466 | 2273 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1990 | 25 | 9 | 2343 | 2172 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1991 | 21 | 11 | 2376 | 2208 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1992 | 21 | 8 | 2129 | 1889 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1993 | 7 | 20 | 1680 | 1915 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1994 | 13 | 14 | 1913 | 1920 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1995 | 21 | 11 | 2281 | 2063 | Bruce Parkhill |
| 1996 | 21 | 7 | 2095 | 1794 | Jerry Dunn |
| 1997 | 10 | 17 | 1634 | 1780 | Jerry Dunn |
| 1998 | 19 | 13 | 2334 | 2201 | Jerry Dunn |
| 1999 | 13 | 14 | 1868 | 1801 | Jerry Dunn |
| 2000 | 19 | 16 | 2572 | 2528 | Jerry Dunn |
| 2001 | 21 | 12 | 2535 | 2473 | Jerry Dunn |
| 2002 | 7 | 21 | 1777 | 2029 | Jerry Dunn |
| 2003 | 7 | 21 | 1766 | 2040 | Jerry Dunn |
| 2004 | 9 | 19 | 1630 | 1874 | Ed DeChellis |
| 2005 | 7 | 23 | 1903 | 2121 | Ed DeChellis |
| 2006 | 15 | 15 | 2021 | 2038 | Ed DeChellis |

Total 1,266 976 129,049 121,240

*Played one tie game.

